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UNUSUAL SAM SITE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE HAIPHONG/CAT BI AIRFIELD, NORTH VIETNAM 20-49-10N 106-44-15E

25X1

25X1

RUNWAY

CENTRAL GUIDANCE AREA

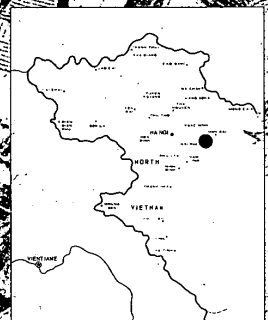
MODIFIED
AIRCRAFT
REVETMENTS

LAUNCH POSITIONS

DISPERSAL TAXIWAY

AIRCRAFT REVETMENT

M-6179 (3/69) NPIC



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UNUSUAL SAM SITE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE
HAIPHONG/CAT BI AIRFIELD, NORTH VIETNAM
204910N 1064415E

25X1

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS A SA-2 SAM SITE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE
UTILIZING AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS AS LAUNCH POSITIONS.

2. LOCATION:

HAIPHONG/CAT BI AIRFIELD, HAIPHONG, NORTH VIETNAM.

3. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS A SAM SITE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE 25X1
IN NORTH VIETNAM AT SITE A14-B (342). THE SITE CONSISTS OF FOUR UNOCCUPIED
REVETTED LAUNCH POSITIONS AND AN UNOCCUPIED REVETTED CENTRAL GUIDANCE AREA. TWO
OF THE LAUNCH POSITIONS ARE FORMER AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS. A FOURTH WALL HAS BEEN
ADDED TO BOTH REVETMENTS. THE OTHER TWO REVETTED LAUNCH POSITIONS HAVE BEEN
CONSTRUCTED ON A DISPERSAL TAXIWAY.

4. REMARKS:

THE CONSTRUCTION AT THIS NEW SITE HIGHLIGHTS A DEVELOPMENT IN SAM SITE
PREPARATION WHICH WAS FIRST OBSERVED AT SITE 311 (ALSO AT CAT BI AIRFIELD) IN
JULY 1968. THIS TECHNIQUE GIVES THE SAM SITE A RATHER CRUDE APPEARANCE IN THAT
PROBABLY ONLY VERY LIGHT EQUIPMENT WAS USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SITE.

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing boards(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue. For information concerning these notes contact Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group NPIC.

GROUP 1 EXCLUDED FROM
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING
AND DECLASSIFICATION

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BY NOT USING HEAVY EQUIPMENT SUCH AS BULLDOZERS AND EARTH MOVERS THE WALLS OF THE REVETMENT APPEAR MUCH THINNER AND NOT AS HIGH AS THOSE AT EARLIER SAM SITES. SITE 341, LOCATED SOUTH OF HAIPHONG, IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE USE OF THIS CRUDE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE.

THE AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS AT SITE 342 HAVE BEEN SPECIALLY MODIFIED TO PROVIDE SIMILAR PROTECTION AND ACCESS AS THAT AFFORDED BY A NORMAL LAUNCH POSITION. SITE 311, A FOUR POSITION SITE, USED ONLY ONE MODIFIED AIRCRAFT REVETMENT, AND SITE 220 UTILIZED THE OPEN ENDED AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS WITH NO MODIFICATIONS.

THE RELATIVELY CRUDE CONSTRUCTION OF SITES 341 AND 342 COUPLED WITH THE RECENT OBSERVATION OF A DUMMY SITE AT HAIPHONG/CAT BI AIRFIELD AND ONE THREE NM SOUTH OF CAT BI, MAY BE AN ATTEMPT ON THE PART OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO PRESENT AN IMPRESSION OF A GREATER SAM CAPABILITY. THE TWO NEW SITES HAVE NOT BEEN OBSERVED OCCUPIED; HOWEVER, THEY COULD EASILY BE USED AS OPERATIONAL SITES.

ANOTHER CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE WAS RECENTLY OBSERVED AT SAM SITE NO. 15 IN THE HANOI AREA. THE SITE WAS BEING FURTHER HARDENED BY PLACING EMPTY SA-2 MISSILE CANNISTERS AROUND THE GUIDANCE AREA. (NPIC BRIEFING BOARD M-5807)



MAP REF: SERIES L7014, SHEET 6350 IV, 1ST ED. (1:50,000) XJ808029

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